As noted above, the foregoing amendment has also been made to distinguish Applicant's invention over the French publication. The French publication admittedly relates to the same art, but it shows an arrangement wherein the openings are not really formed for the purpose of cooling and, more importantly, nothing is done in the shape of the openings or their cooperation with the remainder of the rotor to improve or promote the flow of coolant there through.

Therefore, Claim 1 has been amended so as to delete the recitation of the reinforcing ribs and to emphasize the inclined leading edges of the openings that promote coolant flow axially through the interconnected disk shaped portion. It is submitted that the reference does not teach this feature. With respect to Claim 8, this did emphasize this feature previously, the Examiner has alleged that the openings are inclined but this simply is not the case as clearly shown in the drawings of the publication. Therefore, it is believed that he rejections expressed by the Examiner are all overcome and favorable action is most courteously solicited.

In support of Applicant's priority claim made in the declaration of this application, enclosed herewith is a certified copy of Japanese Application 2001-110208 filed April 9, 2001. Pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 119, please enter this document into the file.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest A. Beutler
Registration No: 19901
500 Newport Center Drive
Suite 945
Newport Beach, Ca 92660
(949) 717-4821 Pacific Time

VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE

1. (Amended) A rotor for a rotating electrical machine comprised of a cylindrical portion carrying a plurality of spaced permanent magnets, a hub portion adapted to be affixed to a rotatable shaft, an interconnecting disk shaped portion for interconnecting said cylindrical portion and said hub portions, and a plurality of [reinforcing ribs] cooling openings formed in said interconnecting disk shaped portion, said cooling openings being defined by inclined leading edges in the direction of rotation of said rotor for promoting a cooling flow axially through said interconnecting disk shaped portion.

2. (Amended) A rotor for a rotating electrical machine as set forth in claim 1, wherein the cylindrical portion and the interconnecting disk shaped portion are integral with each other.

3. (Amended) A rotor for a rotating electrical machine as set forth in claim 2, wherein the hub portion is integral with the [remaining] cylindrical and interconnecting disk shaped portions.

4. (Amended) A rotor for a rotating electrical machine as set forth in claim 1, wherein the [ribs extend axially outwardly from a] interconnecting disk shaped portion [extending] extends radially inwardly from the cylindrical portion at one side thereof.

5. (Amended) A rotor for a rotating electrical machine as set forth in claim 4, [wherein a plurality of openings are defined by the disk shaped portion for reducing the weight and rotational inertia of said rotor without significantly reducing its strength and for permitting a coolant to flow therethrough] further including a plurality ribs equal in number to the openings extending axially outwardly from said interconnecting disk shaped portion and juxtaposed to one side of said openings.

6. (Amended) A rotor for a rotating electrical machine as set forth in claim 5, wherein the [openings are juxtaposed to the] ribs [are curved around] extend radially beyond the openings.

7. (Amended) A rotor for a rotating electrical machine as set forth in claim 1[5], wherein the cooling openings occupy the major portion of the interconnecting disk shaped portion [entire area between the ribs] so that the [ribs] remaining areas of said interconnecting disk shaped portion comprise spokes.